

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
Rural Production, 1955 - 1956.

This Bulletin repeats, with some minor corrections, the principal statistics relating to livestock and cereals recently published in Bulletins 9 and 12 and gives data concerning other crops, exports, manures used, implements, employment, etc., some items being provisional. Particulars of varieties of wheat, barley, oats and peas were published in Bulletin 13.

In the various tables in this bulletin, production results of the year 1955-56 are compared with the same results of the previous 2 years and of the pre-war year 1938/39. In the text, figures for 1954-55 are shown in parentheses.

I. AREAS UNDER CROP

| Particulars                | 1938-39          | 1953-54          | 1954-55          | 1955-56          |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                            | Acres            | Acres            | Acres            | Acres            |
| Wheat for Grain            | 3,080,401        | 1,528,377        | 1,689,103        | 1,609,029        |
| Barley for Grain           | 457,039          | 1,121,744        | 1,019,673        | 1,041,806        |
| Oats for Grain             | 266,842          | 280,244          | 339,640          | 425,026          |
| Rye for Grain              | 5,273            | 52,520           | 37,891           | 37,418           |
| Peas - Field               | 16,570           | 26,093           | 35,280           | 34,298           |
| Lucerne, Clover, etc. Seed | 2,342            | 29,061           | 45,340           | 47,726           |
| Flax                       | 4                | 3,040            | 1,314            | 526              |
| Linseed                    | -                | 70               | 171              | 128              |
| Hay                        | 519,309          | 262,006          | 256,525          | 325,673          |
| Green Fodder               | 276,021          | 367,934          | 363,392          | 339,171          |
| Vines Wine (b)             | 36,457           | 42,750           | 41,518           | 41,496           |
| Drying, Table (b)          | 21,563           | 19,371           | 19,094           | 18,366           |
| Orchards                   | 28,943           | 29,758           | 30,507           | 32,987           |
| Vegetables - Potatoes      | 4,290            | 7,023            | 6,037            | 5,373            |
| Other Domestic             | 5,446            | 8,036            | 9,542            | 11,595           |
| Nurseries                  | 177              | 118              | 101              | 180              |
| Chicory                    | 31               | 22               | 51               | 7                |
| Canary Seed                | 3,076            | -                | -                | 6                |
| Other (a)                  | 306              | 90               | 57               | 791              |
| <b>TOTAL CROPS</b>         | <b>4,724,090</b> | <b>3,778,257</b> | <b>3,895,236</b> | <b>3,971,602</b> |

(a) Includes Vegetable Seeds, Herbs, Safflower, Tic Beans, etc.

(b) According to purpose for which grapes used during year.

Vegetables for 1955-56 (1954-55) include Green Peas 5,547 (4,337), Turnips and Swedes 397 (277), Carrots 319 (270), Onions 524 (512), Pumpkins, Triambles etc. 845 (683), Tomatoes 1,121 (790), Cabbages 372 (374), Cauliflowers 489 (477), French Beans 378 (359), Beetroot 123 (119), Lettuce 346 (331), Celery 371 (348), Cucumbers 75 (69), Rhubarb 77 (73) acres.

II. LAND UTILIZATION

In addition to the area under crop of 3,971,602 (3,895,236) acres, there were 1,075,839 (1,233,159) acres under fallow, 248,602 (333,898) of lucerne for grazing and 2,599,652 (2,628,697) of clover and grasses other than native grasses.

### III. YIELDS OF CROPS

| Particulars         |       | 1938-39    | 1953-54    | 1954-55    | 1955-56    |
|---------------------|-------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Wheat               | Bush. | 31,674,418 | 30,409,231 | 31,462,737 | 28,891,524 |
| Barley              | "     | 7,541,090  | 28,491,293 | 18,376,283 | 24,597,979 |
| Oats                | "     | 2,401,128  | 4,320,758  | 4,508,117  | 7,280,340  |
| Rye                 | "     | 18,469     | 324,907    | 178,650    | 193,330    |
| Peas - Field        | "     | 96,329     | 423,666    | 419,194    | 584,320    |
| Hay (all kinds)     | Tons  | 585,554    | 369,296    | 329,618    | 460,821    |
| Seeds (Clover etc.) | Cwt.  | 2,967      | 30,571     | 43,427     | 43,722     |
| Potatoes            | Tons  | 18,487     | 45,044     | 38,362     | 36,460     |
| Onions              | "     | 3,892      | 4,975      | 4,790      | 4,911      |
| Tomatoes            | Bush. | 226,691    | 339,299    | 355,282    | 486,546    |
| Green Peas          |       |            |            |            |            |
| In Pod              | "     | 97,918     | 288,623    | 382,760    | 394,559    |
| Canning (Shelled)   | lbs.  | -          | 84,356     | 17,916     | 257,982    |
| Carrots             | Tons  | 1,117      | 3,006      | 3,806      | 5,095      |
| Currants            | Cwt.  | 191,381    | 126,526    | 87,699     | 107,379    |
| Sultanas            | "     | 192,926    | 211,525    | 202,968    | 217,733    |
| Raisins             | "     | 40,212     | 117,505    | 79,505     | 56,588     |
| Grapes for Wine     | Tons  | 65,634     | 121,994    | 104,652    | 94,867     |
| Wine                | Gall. | 10,459,324 | 23,497,406 | 19,208,188 | 18,403,197 |
| Apples              | Bush. | 808,020    | 1,380,053  | 621,941    | 985,266    |
| Apricots            | "     | 343,569    | 700,058    | 598,848    | 663,441    |
| Peaches             | "     | 149,602    | 317,686    | 344,114    | 360,100    |
| Pears               | "     | 195,995    | 338,797    | 214,488    | 353,696    |
| Plums, Prunes       | "     | 134,030    | 155,123    | 96,417     | 118,022    |
| Oranges             | "     | 815,460    | 1,398,315  | 1,407,798  | 1,526,697  |
| Lemons              | "     | 55,862     | 58,995     | 50,329     | 57,541     |
| Almonds             | Cwt.  | 9,994      | 14,532     | 17,176     | 12,558     |

#### YIELDS PER ACRE

|                    |       |       |       |       |       |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Wheat              | Bush. | 10.28 | 19.90 | 18.63 | 17.96 |
| Barley             | "     | 16.50 | 25.40 | 18.02 | 23.61 |
| Oats               | "     | 9.00  | 15.42 | 13.27 | 17.13 |
| Hay                | Tons  | 1.13  | 1.41  | 1.28  | 1.41  |
| RAINFALL Apl.-Nov. | Inch. | 10.00 | 12.62 | 10.85 | 15.77 |

Other Vegetable Yields for 1955-56 (1954-55) included - Parsnips 1,308 (1,052) tons; Swedes and Turnips 2,225 (1,708) tons; Beetroot 1,276 (1,264) tons; Pumpkins, Triambles etc. 4,687 (3,749) tons; French Beans 58,857 (62,990) bushels; Broad Beans 5,807 (5,177) bushels; Cauliflowers 175,605 (165,140) dozen; Cabbages 178,191 (170,448) dozen; Lettuce 153,435 (157,269) cases; Celery 168,277 (171,937) crates; Silver Beet 19,404 (12,265) dozen bunches; Rhubarb 279 (289) tons; Cucumbers 57,317 (48,644) half cases.

Other Fruit yields for 1955-56 (1954-55) included Cherries 40,672 (60,011), Figs 23,812 (15,486), Nectarines 25,490 (30,215), Grape Fruit 65,254 (52,785), Quinces 11,827 (11,079), Walnuts 604 (644) cwt.

Berry Fruits were:- Raspberries 475 (415), Strawberries 827 (1,073), Other 718 (952) cwt.

Oranges were specified as Navel 889,055 (900,439), Valencia 563,034 (426,429), Seville and Poorman 7,242 (6,519), Mandarins 32,291 (31,227), Other Seeded types 35,075 (43,184) bushels.

Plums were 48,130 (32,372) and prunes 69,892 (64,045) bushels.

ENSILAGE made 35,457 (22,908) tons.



RECORD yields have been: Wheat 1931-32 48,093,102 bushels; Barley 1953-54 28,491,293 bushels; Oats 1955-56 7,280,340 bushels; Wine 1951-52 25,494,579 gallons; Currants 1943-44 209,140 cwt.; Sultanas 1943-44 333,300 cwt.; Raisins 1953-54 117,505 cwt; Apples 1940-41 1,750,000 bushels; Oranges 1954 1,407,798 bushels; Pears 1953-54 338,797 bushels; Almonds 1949-50 17,937 cwt.; Apricots 1953-54 700,058 bushels.

#### IV. OVERSEA EXPORTS (Years ended June)

| Products                           |       | 1938-39    | 1953-54     | 1954-55     | 1955-56     |
|------------------------------------|-------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Barley                             | Bush. | 2,248,212  | 21,633,696  | 14,734,137  | 13,912,640  |
| Wheat                              | Bush. | 18,486,303 | 12,909,232  | 13,972,358  | 15,897,795  |
| Flour                              | Tons  | 86,676     | 89,659      | 68,650      | 73,640      |
| Butter                             | Lb.   | 7,385,564  | 1,294,608   | 2,228,856   | 2,231,792   |
| Cheese                             | Lb.   | 12,907,683 | 9,183,462   | 12,379,286  | 13,642,604  |
| Eggs                               | £     | 98,911     | 1,202,998   | 795,392     | 757,189     |
| Mutton                             | Cwt.  | 1,391      | 84,402      | 28,301      | 21,695      |
| Lamb                               | Cwt.  | 196,546    | 103,072     | 228,845     | 153,928     |
| Wool (as greasy)                   | Lb.   | 87,272,802 | 114,617,000 | 113,460,000 | 137,515,000 |
| Currants, raisins                  | Lb.   | 42,692,777 | 32,145,234  | 37,037,293  | 31,051,792  |
| Tree fruits -<br>fresh, dried etc. | £     | 275,074    | 2,798,755   | 1,355,464   | 2,103,669   |
| Wine                               | Gall. | 3,440,509  | 1,272,518   | 1,123,613   | 1,103,226   |

#### V. MANURE USED

| Particulars          |       | 1938      | 1953      | 1954      | 1955      |
|----------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Crops manured        | Acres | 4,281,419 | 3,336,175 | 3,470,313 | 3,405,227 |
| Manure used          | Tons  | 179,118   | 171,458   | 176,847   | 176,935   |
| Cropped area manured | %     | 90.6      | 88.3      | 89.1      | 85.7      |
| Manure per acre      | lbs.  | 93.7      | 115.1     | 114.2     | 116.4     |
| Pastures manured     | Acres | 1,095,120 | 2,826,074 | 3,142,411 | 3,498,832 |
| Manure used          | Tons  | 56,325    | 153,626   | 173,503   | 203,847   |
| Manure per acre      | lbs.  | 115.2     | 121.8     | 123.7     | 130.5     |

The quantity of manures used during say 1955 generally speaking would be from the quantities manufactured and/or sold during 1954-55 and would be used for producing the 1955-56 crops. In connection with top-dressed pastures, it is noted that 248,602 (333,898) acres of lucerne and 2,599,652 (2,628,697) acres of clover and grasses other than native grasses were grazed during the year, apart from lucerne, clover, etc. harvested for seed, hay or green fodder.

Particulars of fertilisers used for 1955 were :-

|                      | Area<br>Manured | Super-<br>phosphate | Other<br>Fertilisers | Total<br>per acre |
|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
|                      | Acres           | Tons                | Tons                 | Lbs.              |
| Wheat (all purposes) | 1,636,560       | 78,237              | 169                  | 107.3             |
| Vegetables           | 12,410          | 2,606               | 3,187                | 1045.6            |
| Fruits, Vines        | 50,801          | 3,103               | 5,384                | 374.2             |
| Other Crops          | 1,705,456       | 83,929              | 320                  | 110.7             |
| Total Crops          | 3,405,227       | 167,875             | 9,060                | 116.4             |
| Pastures             | 3,498,832       | 202,954             | 893                  | 130.5             |
| GRAND TOTAL          | 6,904,059       | 370,829             | 9,953                | 123.5             |

Of the superphosphate used, 8,346 tons with trace elements were used on crops and 27,993 tons on pastures.

VI. LIVESTOCK ETC.

| Particulars     |     | 1938-39     | 1953-54     | 1954-55     | 1955-56     |
|-----------------|-----|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Sheep           | No. | 9,936,586   | 11,838,244  | 12,817,135  | 13,584,867  |
| Cattle -        |     |             |             |             |             |
| Dairy Cows      | "   | 165,110     | 192,250     | 199,275     | 195,039     |
| Other           | "   | 153,787     | 298,695     | 324,542     | 371,016     |
| Horses          | "   | 195,834     | 51,807      | 48,943      | 44,470      |
| Pigs            | "   | 71,292      | 60,619      | 84,502      | 72,920      |
| Ewes Mated      | "   | 4,202,848   | 4,965,748   | 5,242,173   | 5,654,541   |
| Lambs Marked    | "   | 3,077,634   | 3,446,607   | 4,014,794   | 4,439,656   |
| Wool Production | Lbs | 105,266,000 | 145,509,000 | 155,760,546 | 174,000,000 |
| Butter Made     | "   | 20,716,584  | 17,610,137  | 19,497,625  | 19,450,000  |
| Cheese Made     | "   | 18,457,598  | 26,009,705  | 29,346,931  | 28,300,000  |
| Milk Production | "   | 72,500,000  | 85,000,000  | 90,698,607  | 90,800,000  |
| Bacon and Ham   | "   | 5,987,363   | 6,540,142   | 7,254,391   | 7,700,000   |
| Slaughtering    |     | 1938a       | 1954b       | 1955b       | 1956b       |
| Sheep, Lambs    | No. | 1,588,507   | 2,637,242   | 2,798,927   | 2,498,927   |
| Cattle, Calves  | "   | 167,451     | 219,853     | 232,892     | 232,892     |
| Pigs            | "   | 150,369     | 104,302     | 136,281     | 136,281     |

a. For year ended 31st December. b. For year ending 30th June.

RECORDS. Record numbers have been:- Sheep, March 1956-13,584,867; Total Cattle, March 1956 - 301,752; Dairy Cattle, March 1955 - 268,921; Horses, December 1913 - 283,641; and Pigs, December 1940 - 190,068. Records in Production have been:- Wool 1955-56 - 174,000,000 lbs; Milk, 1946-47 - 93,500,000 gallons; Butter, 1937-38 - 22,428,298 lbs; Cheese - 1954-55 - 29,346,931 lbs; Bacon and Ham 1945-46 - 11,734,764 lbs; Lambs Marked 1955 - 4,439,656. The record area of pastures top-dressed was 3,498,832 acres in 1955.

VII. MACHINERY, IMPLEMENTS

|                         |     | 1938-39 | 1953-54 | 1954-55 | 1955-56 |
|-------------------------|-----|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Tractors                | No. | 5,969   | 20,742  | 23,110  | 24,345  |
| Rotary Hoes             | "   | 531b    | 2,230   | 2,734   | 3,542   |
| Hay Presses and Balers  | "   | 275a    | 1,873   | 2,110   | 2,383   |
| Milking Machines        | "   | 684     | 5,876   | 6,363   | 6,920   |
| Shearing Machines       | "   | 2,976a  | 10,302  | 11,452  | 12,134  |
| Fertiliser Distributors | "   | N.A.    | 5,423   | 6,554   | 6,431   |
| Ploughs                 | "   | 30,609  | N.A.    | N.A.    | 34,859  |
| Drills and Combines     | "   | 19,203  | N.A.    | N.A.    | 17,992  |

a. 1942-43 b. 1943-44

Other details for 1955-56 were as follows:-

Tractors. Crawler or track type 3,190. Wheeled type 21,155; Hay Presses (Stationary) 801; Balers (Pick-up) 1,582; Harvesters, headers, strippers 13,081; Milking Machines. Unit size 1,-1,301; 2, - 3,498; 3, - 1,212; 4, - 618; 5, - 117; 6, - 149; Other 25. Total Units 16,090. Shearing Machines as per number of stands 1, - 4,407; 2, - 6,165; 3, - 1,072; 4, - 303; 5, - 73; 6, - 66; Other - 48; Total Stands 22,355.



VII. PERSONS ENGAGED PERMANENTLY

| Particulars |     | 1938-39 | 1953-54 | 1954-55(a) | 1955-56 |
|-------------|-----|---------|---------|------------|---------|
| Males       | No. | 41,421  | 37,817  | 37,600     | 37,335  |
| Females     | No. | 2,942   | 5,565   | 5,000      | 4,670   |
| Persons     | No. | 44,363  | 43,382  | 42,600     | 42,005  |

(a) Partly estimated.

Of the persons engaged permanently in 1955-56, 8,020 males and 681 females were paid employees, the balance being occupiers, lessees, unpaid relatives, etc.

Wages and Salaries (including Value of Keep) 1955-56 (1954-55). To permanent workers, males £4,903,731 (£4,958,510), Females £225,203 (£244,191). To Temporary Workers, Males £4,324,921 (£4,204,215); Females £255,323 (£261,371).

IX. BEE-KEEPING

During 1948-49 there was the record production of 10,906,372 lbs. of honey and of 140,384 lbs. of beeswax. For 1955-56 (1954-55) there were 5,114,847 (3,671,249) lbs. of honey and 69,606 (59,708) lbs of beeswax. There were 926 (1,018) beekeepers with 62,336 (58,296) productive and 14,582 (21,004) unproductive hives.

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GOVERNMENT STATIST.

Statistical Office,  
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12th November, 1956.